

**To:** Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Sam Ziegler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Bruce Herbold/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; im Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Sam Ziegler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Bruce Herbold/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; am Ziegler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Bruce Herbold/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; om Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;Bruce Herbold/R9/USEPA/US@EPA;CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Cc:** []  
**From:** CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Mon 12/10/2012 10:15:34 PM  
**Subject:** A few other announcements/items for Bay Delta Team  
[DeltaEFT Jan 30 2013 workshop invitees.xlsx](#)  
[Nutrient Strategy November 2012 revised.pdf](#)  
[www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/erp/sacriverecoflows.asp](http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/erp/sacriverecoflows.asp)  
(embedded image)

Hi Everyone,

I had a few minor things to tell the group this morning but as the meeting progressed I decided it would be just as easy to send them in an email. So, here they are:

TNC is holding an ecological flows tool workshop on Wednesday January 30, 2013. It looks like attendance is by invitation. I think Bruce received an invitation as well because his name is in the excel file that came with the email. I pasted the email below so you all can see it. I replied that I could attend and I'll send out the agenda and materials as they become available. It would be nice if Valentina could join us -- should I try to make that happen?

Delta Science Program is planning a seminar with the topic "The Science of Natural Functional Flow Regime for the Delta." for January 18, 2013 (it is not yet on their calendar though) with Professor Jeff Petts as keynote speaker. I'll send this out to the group as soon as I see it confirmed.

Delta Science Program is hosting Walter Bourez on December 18, 2012 for a brownbag presentation titled "Delta Watershed Unimpaired Flow Index and Analytical Tools to Evaluate System-wide Changes since the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan." You might remember the presentation he provided at the August State Board workshop where he showed his CALSIM runs would drain all the reservoirs at a 50% spring time unimpaired delta out flow objective (it is here [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/docs/wrkshp1/walterbourez.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/docs/wrkshp1/walterbourez.pdf)).

A Delta Science Program Independent Review Panel released the final version of the 2012 Annual Review of the CVP/SWP Long-Term Operations Biological Opinion Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives. This year they focused on salmon RPAs in the NMFS BO. You can skim the report here ([http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Report\\_2012\\_DSPIRP\\_LOOAR\\_120112\\_final.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Report_2012_DSPIRP_LOOAR_120112_final.pdf)). I pasted a quote below that I found very interesting.

"If an appropriate combination of localized spatial and temporal deliveries of water cannot be found to maintain or restore the necessary ecological conditions to support the desirable species populations, the most feasible alternative may be to accept the ecosystem components that are sustainable within the constraints and limitations imposed by historical uses of the available limited resources." Page 6  
I attached the November 2012 Nutrients Strategy and pasted below the part I think references the nutrients workshop idea/concept. This is different than what I read on our phone call -- I read the wrong item number "3" when I was on the phone.

Task 3.3 Assess Science Related to Ecosystem Impacts in Suisun Bay and Relationship to Nutrients An approach is necessary to resolve issues that have been raised relative to nutrient impacts in Suisun Bay

and develop a coordinated science plan. The strategy recommended here is to convene one or more expert panels and sponsor technical workshop(s) to address the three broad categories of proposed nutrient - related impairment in Suisun Bay. The goals of these expert panels will include: 1. evaluating existing scientific evidence for nutrient - related impairment in Suisun Bay; 2. identifying areas of agreement and disagreement within the scientific literature and among the regional research community; 3. recommending studies that can address critical conceptual gaps and data gaps. The results of these panels and the reports from Task 3.2 will be used to refine conceptual models and inform monitoring and special studies (Work Element 5) and modeling (Work element 6). Consideration will be given to involving an external third party, e.g., the Delta Science Program or the USEPA or some other entity in convening or sponsoring the technical workshops. Page 9.

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I work a part time schedule (M 7:30a - 4:00p, T - F 7:30 - 2:00p)

----- Forwarded by Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US on 12/10/2012 01:52 PM -----

From: Ryan Luster <rluster@TNC.ORG>  
To: Ryan Luster <rluster@TNC.ORG>,  
Date: 11/26/2012 02:17 PM  
Subject: Save the Date - Delta Ecological Flows Tool technical review workshop. Sacramento, January 30, 2013

SAVE THE DATE

Dear Delta Ecological Flows Tool Workshop Invitee,

In March 2008 The Nature Conservancy (TNC) completed the Sacramento River Ecological Flows Study ([www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/erp/sacriverecoflows.asp](http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/erp/sacriverecoflows.asp)). A major component of the study was the development of the Sacramento River Ecological Flows Tool (SacEFT). SacEFT is structured as an "ecological plug-in" to existing models that are commonly used for water planning in the Central Valley.

Building on the success of this project, TNC has completed the Delta extension of this decision analysis tool to create the Delta Ecological Flows Tool (DeltaEFT). Construction of the DeltaEFT builds on the substantial past investments in both SacEFT and scientific research in the Delta. Studies funded by the CALFED ERP programs, beginning in the mid 1990s, have resulted in better understanding of the relationships between inflows, water exports, water quality, and at risk fish populations (e.g., Delta Regional Ecosystem Implementation Plan conceptual models, field and modeling studies of Delta smelt, longfin smelt, salmonids and other pelagic organisms). Developments such as the Wanger Decision, the expectation of alternate conveyance strategies for the Delta resulting from the Delta Vision and Bay Delta Conservation Plan efforts, and climate change effects all highlight the need for a more robust means to scientifically evaluate the effects of alternative water management actions for

the Delta.

Our vision for the EFT (both SacEFT and DeltaEFT) is a cross-disciplinary trade-off evaluation tool which builds on this past work, incorporating quantitative and qualitative functional relationships between water operations, water quantity and quality, and focal species' habitats / biological responses. The combined EFT will stimulate trade-off evaluations in water management forums in both the Sacramento Basin and the Delta, thus promoting ecological water operations planning that spans the two regions.

Please join us for a 1-day technical review workshop in Sacramento, Wednesday, January, 30, 2013. The purpose of this technical review workshop will be to demonstrate how the DeltaEFT works and solicit feedback from you on the tool's scientific and technical aspects.

In early December I will send out a detailed agenda, information on the workshop location in Sacramento, and goals of the technical review workshop. At that time I will also ask you to RSVP, until then, please consider joining us on January 30, 2013.

Thank you,

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Ryan Luster  
The Nature Conservancy  
Project Director - Sacramento River

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